

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Drawings were objected to as allegedly lacking features set forth in the claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the Drawings as filed include the features set forth in the claims.

Particularly, the Office Action asserted that the drawings do not include a controller coupled to provide at least one of sound or air in response to activation of an activatable element, as recited by claim 8. Applicant respectfully disagrees, as Fig. 5 as filed shows such features. Specifically, as shown in Fig. 5 and described on page 13 (first full paragraph) and page 14 (first paragraph) of Applicant's specification, control unit 505 is coupled to provide either sound via speaker 560 or air via air controller 535 and air interface 540. Accordingly, the features of claim 8 are shown in Fig. 5.

The Office Action further asserted that the drawings do not show a controller to indicate a position of a first end and an opposite end of a user input device. However, Applicant respectfully submits that Fig. 2 as filed shows a control unit 105 to which is coupled a first sensor 125 and a second sensor 130. Based on information from these sensors, the control unit can indicate a position of the first and opposite ends, as recited by claim 1. *See* Specification, p. 6, ln. 20-p. 7, ln. 12.

Finally, with respect to claim 10, the Office Action asserted that the drawings do not show an optical sensor to indicate a position of the housing. However, Applicant respectfully submits that Fig. 5 shows an optical sensor 530 coupled to control unit 505 to indicate a position of the housing, as described on page 12, last paragraph of Applicant's specification.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that each of the asserted deficiencies of the drawings are present in the original drawings and accordingly, the objection to the drawings is overcome.

The specification was similarly objected to for the same asserted deficiencies. For at least the same reasons discussed immediately above, the specification fully supports and provides sufficient antecedent basis for claims 1, 8, and 10.

Pending claims 1-4 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,475,401 (Verrier). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. With regard to claim 1, Verrier does not disclose a controller within a user-input device to indicate a position of first and opposite ends of a housing. In this regard, the elements asserted by the Office Action to meet a

controller (e.g., 30-34, etc.) are merely various components that receive a signal and convert it into a particular format. However, none of these elements (alone or together) are a controller. Instead, these elements are merely an amplifier, a detector, and an analog to digital converter, none of which are a controller. Accordingly, claim 1 and claims 2-4 depending therefrom are patentable over Verrier. For the same reason, claim 17 is patentable over Verrier.

Pending claims 1, 5, 6, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0163510 (Williams). As to claim 1, the Office Action concedes that Williams does not disclose a controller to indicate a position of an opposite end of a user input device. Office Action, p. 4.

Nor does Williams suggest such functionality in a controller. In this regard, Williams does not indicate position of an opposite end of the user input device simply because a first end is contacting a writing surface. Thus there is no teaching or suggestion in Williams that the controller indicate position of an opposite end, as recited by claim 1. This is especially so, as Williams does not teach or suggest any means of determining a position of an opposite end of the user input device. For at least this reason claim 1 and claims 5-6 depending therefrom are patentable over Williams. For at least the same reasons, claims 17 and 18 are similarly patentable.

Further, for at least the same reasons discussed above with regard to Williams, claims 19 and 20 are patentable, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Williams in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,188,392 is overcome.

Pending claims 31 and 33-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,646,650 (Miller) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,357,265 (Searby). As conceded by the Office Action, Miller does not disclose a control unit to cause air to be generated in response to an activation of an activatable element. Instead, the Office Action purports to use Searby for such a teaching.

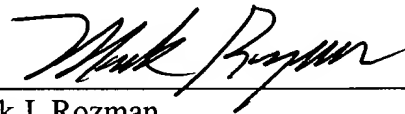
However, Searby does not teach or suggest a control unit within a digital airbrush peripheral to cause air to be generated in response to activation of an activatable element. Instead, Searby merely teaches that a valve may be opened and closed by a user to allow air to pass therethrough. There is no teaching or suggestion that a control unit be responsive to an activatable element to cause air generation. Accordingly, for at least this reason, claim 31 and claims 33-35 depending therefrom are patentable over the proposed combination.

For at least the same reasons, claim 37 is patentable over the combination of Miller and Searby and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,767,843 (Wagner).

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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